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Teachers gearing up for repeat of Harris-era strike?

Rolling walkouts.

Local union rep says next step in fight with province could see job action like 1997



ANGELA MULLINS

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One-day walkouts may be the least of parents' concerns if the province follows through with plans to impose teacher contracts on Jan. 1.

The result could be a strike similar to the one that saw teachers take to the picket lines and closed Ontario schools for two weeks in 1997, says Phillip Mack, president of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Thames Valley Local.

"We're in a legal strike position," Mack said. "Education Minister Laurel Broten seems to have forgotten that. She's pretending, for some reason, that she's in absolute control."

Broten and Premier Dalton McGuinty have said they will step in if strikes —

which have been rippling across the province since Dec. 10 — last longer than one day. The controversial legislation that imposes wage freezes on teachers also gives the government power to order

union members back into classrooms.

"There are processes through the Ontario Labour Relations Board in the event of illegal strike activity. But I'm not going to anticipate a government response to illegal strike activity," Broten said in a Tuesday statement to Metro.

"What I'm really encouraging is for elementary teachers to recognize that their union leadership, who walked away from the discussion table after less than one hour to try to bargain a new collective agreement, has now indicated that they'll be encouraging their members to

undertake illegal strike activity."

Colleen Canon, president of the union representing Thames Valley secondary school teachers,

said there has been no discussion of what will happen in the new year at high schools.

Teachers at the secondary level pulled out of extra-curricular activities last week, prompting Thames Valley administrators to pause sporting events until the holiday break.

Officials are surveying schools to come up with a long-term plan, which could include fielding teams with volunteer coaches.

A repeat of 1997 — considered the largest teachers' strike in North America at the time — isn't something teachers want, Mack said. He added that teachers get paid for each day in the classroom and some stand to lose as much as \$400 to \$500 for every day they're on a picket line. "There's a huge sacrifice being made," he said.

The legislation, which unions say strips them of their collective-bargaining rights, gives teachers until Dec. 31 to reach agreements at the local level. After that, contracts modelled after those accepted by Catholic teachers could take effect, officials have said.

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Thursday's walkout

- Thames Valley elementary schools will be closed as teachers go on strike for the day.
- Picket lines will be manned from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 31 sites across the district.
- For a full list of London picket spots, go to metronews.ca.

Phillip Mack, president of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Thames Valley Local, shows some of the signs that will be carried by teachers on the picket lines to protest Bill 115. The Thursday walkout will close local elementary schools for the day. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

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Western downtown campus project shelved ... for now

'Idea No. 6.' Return on investment not big enough to warrant moving forward, city staff say



ANGELA MULLINS

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Mayor Joe Fontana is urging city administrators to make a downtown Western University campus "idea No. 6" on a five-point plan for spurring economic growth.

The proposal — which includes Western taking ownership of city hall, Centennial Hall and the civic square between them — is one of the most high-profile of 28 that have landed in the city's new "idea bank." The bank is a holding spot for ideas that have potential but didn't make the initial cut for the economic-development plan.

Fontana's worried that putting the Western project on the shelf doesn't "rise to the occasion" of making it happen. The city needs to "work much more closely" with the university, he said, similar to



A proposal from Western University included taking over Reginald Cooper Square, shown here, as well as city hall and Centennial Hall. METRO FILE

the way it firmed up plans for Fanshawe College to launch a downtown campus.

Overall, the new economic-development plan — expected to cost taxpayers \$60 million over 10 years — doesn't give enough attention to institutions like Western and Fanshawe, the mayor said.

"It seems to me that the education piece in our economic-development strategy is going to need a little more work," Fontana said during a Tuesday committee meeting.

Western's proposal was shelved because it didn't bring

enough bang for the city's buck, said Harvey Filger, director of corporate investments and partnerships. Conservative estimates show the project would cost the city \$70.8 million and create only about 20 new jobs, he said.

"The idea of a Western

Five-point strategy

- The city's proposed five-point strategy for economic development was tabled at Tuesday's meeting of the investment and economic prosperity committee.
- It was created from 49 proposals pitched over the summer.
- The key action items are: Getting more land ready for industry, building a performing-arts centre, redeveloping the London Hydro lands, creating a fund to support medical research and piloting a worker-retraining program.

downtown campus is very exciting ... however, we have to look at the environment we live in," Filger told the committee.

Fontana countered that later in the meeting, saying every student is worth about \$40,000 to the local economy each year.

"That's the equivalent of a job," he said.

New award at Western targets aboriginal health

Western University has a new student award aimed at aboriginal health, thanks in part to a donation by Bruce Power.

The Dr. Dana Winterburn Memorial Award, announced Tuesday, is a scholarship that will be given to a medical student at Western who is interested in working with aboriginal or indigenous communities.

The award is named

Background

Dr. Dana Winterburn also served as a family physician at the Middlesex London Health Unit and the North Lambton Community Health Centre, serving the Kettle Point First Nation.

after an associate professor of medicine at Western

who died in a car accident last April. Winterburn's friends, patients and family members contributed to a memorial fund at the university, but an additional \$7,000 was needed to make it an endowed award and lasting tribute.

When Bruce Power heard it would be given to students interested in aboriginal health, it got on board.

"Dr. Winterburn's special

interest in aboriginal health and education is a model for what Bruce Power strives for in our relationships with the local aboriginal communities," said Bruce Power vice-president James Scongack in

a news release.

Winterburn was the first aboriginal graduate from the doctor of medicine program at the University of Alberta.

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11 NEWS

PAWS down but not out

Planned non-profit animal hospital.
Leaders retooling fundraising campaign after losing out on major grant



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A group planning to open a non-profit animal hospital is vowing to carry on after coming up short in a competition for a grant.

Dr. Martha Harding, a veterinarian leading the effort, said PAWS (Progressive

Animal Welfare Services) is still on track for opening the London facility next spring or summer.

An out-of-town donor has stepped up to the plate, offering a "significant" cash infusion for the project, she said. Now, Harding is hoping local businesses, foundations, and families will follow suit.

So far, about \$37,000 of the \$180,000 needed to get the facility up and running has been raised, she said. Harding announced late Monday that PAWS fell short in a bid for up to \$150,000 from the Aviva Community Fund.

"There are other fundraising ideas that we're definitely proceeding with," Harding

told Metro. "We're pushing very, very hard on this. All the energies that went into Aviva will now go into other fundraising."

The Aviva contest asked people to show support for projects by casting online votes. PAWS generated interest from people across the country, something Harding hopes will help in the group's next fundraising blitz.

A site for the facility hasn't been chosen but several possibilities have been short-listed, Harding said.

The hospital would offer a variety of services, including spay and neuter surgeries, on a sliding-fee scale based on income. It would also offer

On the web

For more information about PAWS or to support its effort to open a non-profit animal hospital, visit pawslondon.ca.



pet boarding for people who are homeless or staying in a shelter because of domestic abuse.

The hospital would serve 11 counties, stretching from Lake Erie to Georgian Bay.

Ontario has four similar hospitals, all operated out of humane societies. The London hospital would be the first standalone facility in the province.

Idle No More movement

First Nations to rally in London on Wednesday

The First Nations community is planning a peaceful rally in London on Wednesday, and police are encouraging motorists to plan their routes accordingly.

Police said the convoy may interrupt the normal flow of traffic, and ask that motorists take alternate routes.

Almost 800 people are expected to take part in the rally, part of the national Idle No More movement in support of indigenous rights.

METRO/AM980/AM980.CA

Route details

- The group will be travelling north-bound on Wellington Road from Highway 401 and is planning on entering the city around 10 a.m.
- The convoy will continue on Wellington Road where it will be turning west on Dundas Street.
- The group is expected to reach its destination at Ivey Park in the early afternoon.

Enjoying dog days of winter

Michelle Milliken, 27, of London, braved the damp weather Tuesday to take her husky Danika to the Stoney Creek off-leash dog park on Adelaide Street. Londoners are expected to get a break from the rain Wednesday, as Environment Canada is calling for sun and a high of 5 C. But the rain is set to return Thursday, with a high of 8 C.

AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO



Hamilton Road Tree Trunk Tour. Unveilings Wednesday in London

Three new tree-trunk carvings in the Hamilton Road Tree Trunk Tour will be unveiled Wednesday.

Local dignitaries will speak at the dedications:

• 9:30 a.m.: Ealing Public School (840 Hamilton Rd.), Eagle's Nest sculpture.

• 10 a.m.: Crouch Branch Library (550 Hamilton Rd.), ABC Tree sculpture.



• 10:30 a.m.: Trafalgar Public School (919 Trafalgar St.), Titan the Grizzly sculpture.

The Tree Trunk Tour project, a walking tour with a final total of 20 sculptures, will be

completed before the world figure skating championships in March 2013. **METRO**

FC London. Champion soccer club gets kudos

Local soccer club FC London was named developmental organization of the year by the United Soccer Leagues during its annual general meeting this past weekend.

The honour is given to the club that best exemplifies success and leadership, and FC London faced tough competition from other teams in the Premier Development League of the USL.

The title adds to the FC London's list of accolades for 2012 including North American champions, which they

Quoted

"With their support, we've been able to create something special for London soccer that everyone can be proud of."

London FC president Ian Campbell, thanking fans

earned in August defeating the Carolina Dynamo.

AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO

Homegrown thriller. Horror movie to be filmed in Forest City

Following the success of its first film, Devil Seed, local production company Matchbox Pictures is getting ready for its sophomore effort.

Kingdom Come, a thriller about a group of strangers who wake up in an abandoned hospital stalked by the supernatural, will be filmed and produced in London.

Just over half the funds have been raised for the film, but Matchbox continues to look for investors.

Matchbox Pictures

Kingdom Come is set to start filming in the new year.

"Our risk is high, but the return is better than most investment opportunities that are currently out there," said Dwight Coughlan, president of Matchbox.

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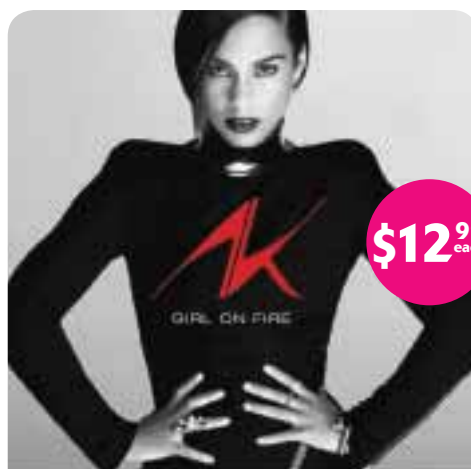
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Republicans open up to gun debate

Taking the first step. Gun manufacturers see shares continue to fall as politicians on both sides of the aisle shift stances after Friday's shooting

Some Republicans now say they're willing to discuss the politically treacherous issue of gun control, along with mental-health issues and violent video games, while U.S. President Barack Obama said he supports efforts in Congress to reinstate an assault-weapons ban in the wake of last week's Connecticut school shooting.

The massacre, one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history, has rattled the usual national dialogue on guns in America, where public opinion had shifted against tougher gun control in recent years, and the gun lobby is a power-

ful political force.

Obama has long supported reinstating the assault-weapons ban, which expired in 2004, but was quiet on the issue during his first term. He has said he believes the Constitution's Second Amendment guarantees a person the right to bear arms.

The president was not expected to take any formal action on guns before the end of the year, given the all-consuming efforts to resolve tax and deficit-reduction talks and nominate new cabinet secretaries.

The most powerful supporter of gun owners, the National Rifle Association, broke its silence on Tuesday. After a self-imposed media blackout that left many wondering how it would respond to the killings, it said in a statement that its members were "shocked, saddened and heartbroken by the news of the horrific and senseless murders."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Susan Shepherd wipes away tears as she stands with friends and co-workers at the funeral Tuesday for James Mattioli, 6, who died in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings. Funerals were held for Mattioli and Jessica Rekos, 6, who were among the 26 people killed when Adam Lanza walked into the elementary school in Newtown, Conn., on Dec. 14 and opened fire. CRAIG RUTTLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A complicated issue

"Put guns on the table ... put video games on the table, put mental health on the table."

Republican Congressman Jack Kingston

Quebec. Slain teacher's relatives call American gun laws 'revolting'

The Newtown school massacre has left grieving Canadian relatives of one murdered teacher denouncing U.S. gun laws.

Several of the Rousseau family in Quebec's Eastern Townships will be going down to Connecticut for the funeral of Lauren Rousseau, a substitute teacher whose father was born in Quebec.

"It's revolting how easy it is to obtain firearms — that's what's so infuriating," said

the victim's uncle, Francois Rousseau. He and several relatives will be heading down for the funeral of his brother's daughter.

Lauren Rousseau, 30, was born in the U.S. Her Canadian-born father, Gilles Rousseau, told Radio-Canada that he wanted to see his daughter's body but was informed by authorities that it would not be possible.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bushmaster rifles

Firearms maker put up for sale

The largest firearms maker in the United States said Tuesday it is being put up for sale by its owner, which called last week's school shooting a "watershed event" in the national debate over gun control. Freedom Group International makes Bushmaster rifles, the weapon thought to have been used in Friday's killings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Claims self-defence

Student, 11, brings gun to school

Authorities say an 11-year-old boy caught with a gun at school in Utah told administrators he brought the weapon to defend himself in case of an attack similar to the mass shooting last week at a Connecticut elementary school. School officials say the boy has been arrested. No one was injured.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan

Vaccination workers shot dead

Gunmen shot dead five women working on UN-backed polio vaccination efforts in two Pakistani cities on Tuesday, officials said, a major setback for a campaign that international health officials consider vital to contain the crippling disease, but which Taliban insurgents say is a cover for espionage. Pakistan is one of only three countries where polio is endemic.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sticky fingers

Maple-syrup heist suspects nabbed

There has been a break in the case of a massive maple-syrup heist, with police announcing that a months-long search has yielded three arrests and the seizure of millions' worth of stolen sticky stuff. Three people were nabbed Tuesday in connection with the theft of a large quantity of the national condiment from a warehouse in Quebec. About 2.7 million kilos of maple syrup was reported missing last summer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Death row

Judge spares obese inmate

The decision by Ohio's governor to spare a morbidly obese death-row inmate on legal grounds unrelated to the prisoner's weight means executions will likely carry on in the state next year.

Gov. John Kasich on Monday commuted the death sentence of Ronald Post to life without the possibility of parole, sparing him for the 1983 shooting death of Elyria motel clerk Helen Vantz in a robbery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON TRANSIT NEWS

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

Christmas Day December 25 (Tuesday)	Boxing Day, December 26 (Wednesday)
<p>For Christmas Day, December 25 the following routes will operate on special schedules:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>1 Kipps Lane 2 Dundas 3 Hamilton Rd. 4 Oxford East 6 Richmond 7 Wavell</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>9C Whitehills 15 Westmount 16 Adelaide 20 Cherryhill 21 Huron Heights</p> </div> </div>	<p>For December 26, all routes (except 2 Dundas and 13 Wellington) will operate on regular Sunday/Holiday schedule. Routes 2 Dundas and 13 Wellington will use a special schedule with extra buses.</p>
<p>The following routes will operate on a regular Sunday/Holiday schedules:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>5 Springbank 10 Wonderland 11 Southcrest 12 Wharmcliffe</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>13 Wellington 14 Highbury 17 Oxford West 26 Jalna</p> </div> </div>	<p>Free New Year's Eve Service After 8 pm London Transit will be offering free rides from 8 pm through 1 am on New Year's Eve. All routes normally operating at 11 pm will be extended to 1 am.</p>
<p>On December 27, 28 and January 2 all routes will operate on a regular schedule</p>	
<p>On January 1 all routes will operate on a Sunday/Holiday schedule</p>	
<p>Separate Christmas and New Year's Eve schedules will be available after December 15 at both LTC locations (main office at 450 Highbury Avenue and downtown Ticket Office at 150 Dundas Street) and online at www.ltconline.ca.</p>	
<p>London Transit wishes you and yours a safe and happy holiday!</p>	

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Airfare ads must show total ticket price, feds say

The federal government says advertised airfares for flights originating in Canada must include all relevant fees so the travelling public can easily understand the total cost.

Transport Minister Denis Lebel said advertised prices for the public must include all taxes, fees and other charges so consumers can clearly see the total cost of an airline ticket, with no hidden fees. The "all-in" price doesn't need to include fees for optional services such as in-flight entertainment, meals and baggage, but the price of the options must be displayed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Policy change

Instagram says photos won't end up in advertising

Instagram, the popular photo-sharing service that Facebook bought this year, says it will revise a planned update to its service agreement after confusion about its intent led to widespread user complaints.

At issue is whether users' photos can be part of advertisements, on and off Instagram. The company said in a blog post Tuesday that it has no plans to put users' photos in advertisements. That said, Instagram maintains that it was created to become a business and would like to experiment with various forms of advertisements to make money.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air Canada Rouge takes flight July 1

Discount travel. New carrier will focus on leisure travel market, with destinations in Europe, Caribbean

Air Canada is jumping into the low-cost leisure travel market with the launch of its new Rouge airline, which will begin flying on Canada Day to destinations in Europe and the Caribbean.

The airline will start with flights from Toronto to Venice and Edinburgh — two destinations that currently aren't served by Air Canada — and will serve Athens from Toronto and Montreal.

Air Canada's existing flights to Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Costa Rica will be flown by the discount carrier from Toronto.

The destinations are areas where demand for leisure travel has been growing, said Ben Smith, Air Canada's chief commercial officer. But many



Air Canada's chief commercial officer Ben Smith, right, and Michael Friisdahl, CEO of Air Canada Leisure Group, second right, unveil new leisure airline Air Canada Rouge in downtown Toronto on Tuesday. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

are routes that didn't generate adequate profits under Air Canada's existing cost structure.

"The creation of this carrier is to assist us in serving many destinations that our existing model does not work on a competitive basis," Smith said.

The airline says flights to Venice, Edinburgh and Athens start at "special introductory

fares" of \$949 round-trip, including all taxes, fees, charges and surcharges.

Flights to the Dominican Republic and Jamaica will start at \$269, one-way, while Cuba is offered starting at \$538 round-trip. All the introductory fares, which are available until Dec. 25, are based on Toronto departures.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BVO. Drink additive is safe, Health Canada says

Major soft-drink makers and Health Canada say the use of brominated vegetable oil in Canadian beverages is safe, despite a growing movement elsewhere to ban its use.

The additive, which is used to cloud and stop separation in some drinks, has been banned in most of Europe for decades and Japan recently discontinued its use. However, BVO continues to be used in popular drinks sold in Canada, including some flavours of Gatorade, Powerade, Fresca, Mountain Dew and Amp Energy Drink.

BVO is classified as a food additive, but there is limited knowledge of its composition, researchers have said. It does contain bromine, which is also in flame retardants and has been found to build up in body lipids. A Health Canada spokesman said there are no health risks associated with BVO when it is used according to regulations, which sets out that 15 parts per million can be used in citrus or spruce-flavoured beverages.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Market Minute



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CUDDLE PARTY MARKS END OF WORLD



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Looking for something to do the day the world ends? How about a Cuddle Party? There's one on the Last Day, this coming Friday, somewhere in Calgary. To ward off kuddle

krashers, you don't get to know the final location until you pay your 20 bucks and sign up. Then, apparently, you turn up in your pyjamas ready to cuddle. Or not.

WTF? You don't know about Cuddle Parties? Well, let me bring you up to speed. The Cuddle Party is the brainchild of two New York relationship counsellors (you're surprised?), Reid Mihalko and Marcia Baczynski, who started them in their "tiny Manhattan apartment" in 2004. They spread immediately to the Left Coast, and from there to Vancouver and Calgary, the apparent, er, hot bed of Canadian cud-dling.

In a nutshell

The idea is to bring a bunch of people together, most of them total strangers, and create a group grope that stays on the disappointing side of sexuality throughout.

Those eastern bastards may have to freeze in the dark, but Calgary has Cuddle Power to keep it warm.

The idea is to bring a bunch of people together, most of them total strangers, and create a group grope that stays on the disappointing side of sexuality throughout.

Organizers are adamant. No sex. If you get turned on, according to the Rules (and there are plenty of them), just wait and it will go away.

So they say. Just to make sure: No alcohol or shorts allowed. Pyjamas with drawstrings — this is a lace-free zone.

The first 40 minutes of the event involves a presentation on How to Cuddle, giving leery participants enough time to work up the courage to cuddle some guy you might not care to sit next to on the bus, especially considering the way he's looking at you.

But don't worry! By the end of the evening, you'll have discovered the Joy of Cuddling and will be prepared to cuddle anyone or anything. Or not. One of the features of the Cuddle Party is that it offers participants an opportunity to learn how to say NO in the clench. Each touch essentially has to be negotiated in advance. If the cuddlee says Yes (Not Yes! Yes! Never Yes! Yes!) then the cuddlor can proceed with some respectful, non-sexual touching.

This advanced course in touching strangers leads to a lot of (painfully) sincere, convoluted language from participant testimonials on the website cuddlepary.com about learning to say no in order to say yes, or is it the other way around? And about how cuddling is not always about sex and various other things guys will say when they hope to get lucky.

Look, I can't think of anything I'd rather do less on my last day on Earth than cuddle with the cast of Portlandia, but that's just me. I can Just Say No, can't I?

But you go ahead and get to Yes. Just remember, that's all you're getting.



If you haven't heard of Cuddle Parties yet, get well acquainted. CUDDLEPARTY.COM

This looks a bit fishy



KIM PRESTON/REX FEATURES

'Animal' photography

Plastic shot to look like sea creatures

This image of odd-looking sea creatures would have marine biologists baffled, but it in fact shows an everyday object shot to represent sea animals. The project, titled Plastic Pacific, was created by Australian artist Kim Preston, 33, who wanted to draw attention to the devastating effect of plastic buildup in oceans around the globe. **METRO**

Artist's viewpoint

"I hoped that the prettiness of the images would draw people in more than if I showed the far uglier reality."

Kim Preston, digital designer and illustrator, 33, from Melbourne, Australia

Passionate on the preservation of our oceans, Preston added that "this is a photographically-based rant against the irresponsible overuse of plastic. I recently obtained a scuba-diving certificate in Indonesia and seeing all of the plastic caught on the reefs inspired this project."

Process of photograph

Creativity used to shoot under budget

Shot in her garden shed, Preston used a blue fabric as the backdrop and hung all the objects from a clothes rack while she photographed them. For the shower caps, she would quickly blow into them before snapping a shot with a wireless shutter release. She had planned to shoot the series inside a fish tank, but her lack of budget forced her to become more creative. **METRO**



Twitter

@ncarbert:

The green grass of #ldnont is giving me the wrong impression of the season... Happy Easter?

@robtothg1:

Finished with an 82 average #happy #finally #fanshawe #ryersonnextyr #hope

@kyceara:

That moment when you still have an exam in more than 24hours #westernu is a #ghosttowncampus #nolinesho #seriouslytho

#sickjoke

@jo_mAmA:

To say we "can't stop violence" is a cop-out. We can stop violence. Take responsibility for your mind and actions.

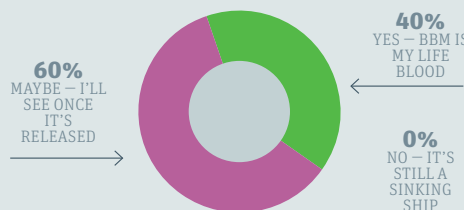
@CourtinCanada:

Thank you to the supervisor at UCC Tim Horton's ... I forgot my meal plan on my desk and she bought my tea #randomactof-kindness #westernu



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

RIM's BlackBerry 10 is getting rave reviews.
Are you buying into the hype?



End of the world viewing

The end of the world may or may not be upon us, but Hollywood has been preparing us for this moment for decades. The higher the stakes, the bigger the drama, and there's no higher stakes than the fate of the entire world. So here's our picks for the best movies about the end of the world.

NED EHRBAR
scene@metronews.ca

1. Children of Men (2006)

Alfonso Cuarón's adaptation of P.D. James' novel about a world unraveling after women stop being able to get pregnant is a masterpiece, a gripping and hyper-realistic look at how society deals with calamity. The real tragedy is how little attention it got upon its release. Watch it now, while you still have time.



2. Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1964)



Stanley Kubrick made it OK to laugh in the face of possible nuclear annihilation with this pointed satire of escalation and mutually assured destruction, culminating with Slim Pickens' famous ride on a warhead.

3. Melancholia (2011)

Dazzling visuals and an impressive, against-type performance by Kirsten Dunst buoy this divisive film from Lars von Trier about a family trying to get through a wedding while a rogue planet hurtles toward Earth, threatening total annihilation.



4. The Cabin in the Woods (2012)



Spoiler alert: Drew Goddard's hilarious, twist-filled take on horror movies (co-written by Joss Whedon) is more than it seems.

5. Night of the Comet (1984)

Call it the Omega Valley Girls. In this sci-fi horror-comedy gem, two no-nonsense teenage sisters contend with zombies in the fallout of the titular comet reducing Los Angeles to rubble.



6. Last Night (1998)

A quiet, delightful indie precursor to Seeking a Friend for the End of the World, Don McKeller's film gives a distinctly Canadian look at the end of the world. Toronto residents have had months to prepare, so there's little need for panic.



7. The Road (2009)



A gut-punch of a film, John Hillcoat's screen adaptation is just as chilling and stark as the Cormac McCarthy novel on which it is based. The world may not actually end in this one, but from the looks of what's become of things, it might as well have.

8. Seeking a Friend for the End of the World (2012)

A refreshing take on the asteroid headed to Earth plot, this road movie with Steve Carell and Keira Knightley is surprisingly charming — and features a barrage of comic cameos as the main characters head out across the country with three weeks to live.



9. On the Beach (1959)



Long before CGI could render total destruction in realistic detail, we had Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner waiting out the end in Australia after a global nuclear war in this Cold War-era drama, notable for its non-Hollywood ending.

10. Deep Impact (1998)

In a year that brought competing projects about an asteroid on a collision course with the Earth, the scrappy Deep Impact is actually the superior movie to Michael Bay's bloated, Aerosmith-ballad-filled Armageddon if for no other reason than it gave us President Morgan Freeman. Also, points for casting Elijah Wood.

Week of Armageddon

Check out Metro all week for more stories of apocalyptic proportions.

Movie Review

A Guilt Trip down the middle lane

The Guilt Trip

Director. Anne Fletcher

Stars. Seth Rogen, Barbra Streisand

What made The Guilt Trip an interesting premise also ultimately works against it. Sure, crafting a road-trip comedy with Barbra Streisand as mother to Seth Rogen's coddled adult son may attract fans from disparate camps, but by skirting down the middle, the comedy



ends up compromised for both sides.

Ultimately, the Babs side wins as Streisand's overbear-

ing Jewish matriarch makes Rogen look like he's just

holding back.
STEVE GOW/METRO

2 SCENE



Channing Tatum's wife Jenna Dewan-Tatum has a bun in the oven.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

'Sexiest Man Alive' reproducing

Capping off an amazing year that's included several hit movies and a Sexiest Man Alive title, Channing Tatum is now gearing up for fatherhood. Tatum's wife, Jenna Dewan-Tatum, is expecting the couple's first child sometime next year, their rep confirmed to

People magazine. And it may not be the last.

"I'm ready. I think she's ready," Tatum recently told the magazine. "The first number that pops into my head is three, but I just want one to be healthy and then we'll see where we go after that."

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Bend it like Burberry? The 10-year-old kid of Posh and England's soccer superstar will be one of the new faces of the British luxury label come 2013.

Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Beckham?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Maybe he's just not that good with a soccer ball?

It was announced this week that at only 10 years old, David and Victoria Beckham's son Romeo Beckham is the "baby face" of Burberry's spring/summer '13 campaign, joining a long list of models and stars who have fronted ads for the house, including Cara Delevingne, Edie Campbell and Eddie Redmayne. "We had such fun shooting the campaign and I think that comes through in the images, which really reflect the upbeat spirit of the collection," Burberry's creative director Christopher Bailey says.

Perhaps Burberry really wanted his dad, David Beckham, but then decided they wanted to go with someone who has more of a mature, male voice?

In other news:
A 2012 coming-out recap

Who: Anderson Cooper, journalist.

How: In an email to blogger Andrew Sullivan.

What was said: "The fact is, I'm gay," Cooper wrote. "Always have been, always will be, and I couldn't be any more happy, comfortable with myself and proud." Cooper, who was the subject of rumours for years, addressed his silence in the email. "I have given some the mistaken impression that I am trying to hide something — something that makes me uncomfortable, ashamed or even afraid. This is distressing because it is simply not true."

Who: Wade Davis, a cornerback who spent four pre-seasons with three NFL teams.

How: In an interview with Outsports.com.

What was said: "You just want to be one of the guys, and you don't want to lose that sense of family," Davis said about not coming out sooner. "Your biggest fear is that you'll lose that camaraderie and family." There has yet to be an openly gay player in any of the four major American professional leagues.

Who: Lee "Uncle Poodle" Thompson, redneck.

How: Just by appearing on Honey Boo Boo.

What was said: Thompson's homosexuality isn't a huge to-do on the show; he's out and proud. As Alana says in the season finale, "ain't nothin' wrong with bein' a little gay."



E.T. star is adult enough to admit she still makes mistakes.

Drew still a kid at heart

Drew Barrymore has done a lot of growing up, but that doesn't mean she feels like an adult.

"The mistakes, the potholes, the journeys, the

bad patterns — all of it is so much clearer to me now, but I still don't totally feel like a grown-up," the 37-year-old new mom tells Allure magazine. "Maybe I never will."



Zoëy Deschanel and Death Cab for Cutie's Benjamin Gibbard are never, ever, getting back together.

Cutie divorce finalized

Zoëy Deschanel's marriage to Death Cab for Cutie frontman Benjamin Gibbard is officially over, with the former couple formalizing their divorce in a Los Angeles court last week, just over a

month after separating, according to E! News. And the New Girl star appears to already be moving on, having been spotted recently walking hand-in-hand with new screenwriter boyfriend Jamie Linden.

Twitter

@SteveMartinToGo
Still not feeling funny, nor is funny feeling appropriate.

@Sethrogen
After watching Homeland and Zero Dark Thirty, I'm really thinking the CIA should release a line of sexy lady's pantsuits.

@BryanSinger
I can't seem to tweet without misspelling something. :(

@AlbertBrooks
Gerard Depardieu gives up French citizenship and moves to Belgium. Taxes or waffles?

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MANUFACTURER COUPON EXPIRY DATE: MARCH 31, 2013

This holiday season, think South Pole instead of North

Icy wonderland. While Santa's homeland might be on our minds right now, Antarctica's unspoiled landscape beckons travellers

DOUG WALLACE
life@metronews.ca

Who owns Antarctica? The penguins, of course — several million of them (cute little devils, too). At 1.4 times the size of Canada, the seventh continent to tick off your bucket list is rich with incredible wildlife, pristine vistas and amazing history. With the season stretching from the end of November to the beginning of March, and January temps hovering at zero around the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula, this trip south could be your chance to be a real snowbird this winter.

The starting gate

The expedition begins with an overnight in Ushuaia, a small city of 65,000 at the bottom of Argentina that bills itself as the “city at the end of the world.” Just a few kilometres from Tierra del Fuego National Park, it was originally founded as a prison colony, and the old prison has been converted into a museum complex, which includes a full wing on Antarctica itself.

The ship

Most of the cruise ships that serve Antarctica are a smaller variety; great for squeezing through ice-filled canals. Toronto-based Quark Expeditions has been ferrying people across the notorious Drake Passage for 20 years, with a comfortably high guest-to-crew ratio and an excellent track record. On-board experts share their knowledge of ornithology, marine biology, zoology and geology with insightful talks during downtimes on the voyage down and back, as well as throughout the trip.

Photography courses help guests get that perfect shot, and a wellness program includes yoga classes and massage therapy — both great for relieving backs left sore from a day of hiking and Zodiac boat rides around all the icebergs. There are cocktail parties and regular recaps of the day's events, and the food is top notch — just like on luxury cruises.

The crowd

A truly international crowd makes this trek — from the

fleece-clad adventurers to the retirees bored with the Caribbean to the young marrieds getting in some travel miles before they start a family.

“Antarctica captures people's imagination regardless of their age, and people come with different goals,” says Quark expedition leader David Wood. “Some are captivated by penguins, others (are) looking for whales. It's fascinating talking to people about what it was that motivated them. One fellow had a chance to come to an Antarctica base to work when he was younger, but his wife was having a baby and wouldn't let him go. So 40 years later, she gave him the trip as a gift.”

Visiting scientists gathering data could well accompany you on your excursions, and are eager to talk about their work. Whether guests are gung-ho adventure types or a “contemplative” group that takes things easier, there is pretty much something for everyone. And there are lots of people travelling alone, so don't let that stop you.

The excursions

After two days at sea, when you reach land-ho, out come the Zodiac pontoon boats. Twice daily spins around the various harbours and bays, plus landings on islands that dot the Antarctic Peninsula as well as the continent itself, make for a flurry of activity. Sea kayaking is a great way to interact with the scenery and connect with the water and the wildlife. Penguin colonies, secluded bays of berg-filled waters, lazy seals on thick ice floes, majestic birds, gorgeous glacial ice sculptures, rocky peaks — the photo ops are beyond stunning. Hikes up mountains yield breathtaking views.

Guests game enough to brave an over-night camping trip sleep right on the snowy shore in bivvy bags under the semi-dark night sky. “It doesn't matter how many documentaries you watch, how many pictures you see, how many descriptions you hear from other people, you are never truly prepared before you see Antarctica — and then you are touched,” Wood says.

Essentially, the continent is a giant block of rock, covered by ice three to four kilometres thick. In the winter, Antarctica doubles in size with an ice belt all around it, which breaks apart in the summer.

The Wildlife

Within the Antarctic Peninsula area, you can see different kinds of penguins (including the Gentoo, Adélie and Chin-



Hikes around the islands of Antarctica reveal breathtaking views. ALL PHOTOS: TIM STEWART



The penguins are the real stars of the cruise, entertaining travellers with their antics.



A crabeater seal enjoys some South Pole sunshine.

the right of way,” says Wood.

“We want no diversions for them — this is their home.”

You can see other birds flying alongside the ship, nesting in rocky crags or feasting on krill at the shoreline: blue-eyed shags, Antarctic terns, brown skuas, snowy sheathbills and numerous varieties of petrels.

The eco-friendliness

All Antarctica tour operators uphold the same objectives to keep the region as pristine as possible, following directives outlined in The Antarctic Treaty, which was signed in 1959.

Among other things, this involves preventing the introduction of non-native species to the area, be it plants or disease.

Travellers step through a disinfecting boot bath getting on and off the ship. You leave zero evidence of ever having stepped on Antarctica, except for your footprint.

If you go...

- **Getting there.** Air Canada flies to Buenos Aires from Toronto every day at midnight, via Santiago, Chile. Pad the front or back end of this holiday with a stopover in BA for at least a few days.
- **Tours.** For 2013-2014, Quark Expeditions has a few new adventures, including a Greenland cruise and a Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica voyage that departs from Buenos Aires. It features the first-ever Polar Floating Documentary Film Festival, and was just voted one of Wanderlust Travel magazine's 50 Best Trips of 2013. Check it all out at quarkepeditions.com.

Travellin' Canadian Darren Parkman tries life in the fast lane

Las Vegas. Forget gambling and partying, whizzing around a racetrack in a \$300,000 car is one of Sin City's biggest thrills



THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN
Darren Parkman
travel@metronews.ca

As if endless bars, glitzy shows, and nerve-racking blackjack weren't enough, there's an even more exciting way to get the adrenaline pumping in Vegas.

How about putting pedal to metal behind the wheel of a \$300,000 racing Ferrari?

If you've got the nerve, the skills and several hundred dollars, Dream Racing at Las Vegas Motorways is for you.

A little backstory: My first

car was a beloved '73 Pinto, so I'm no Mario Andretti behind the wheel. Still, I couldn't resist the urge to at least pretend I was, and hopefully emerge in one piece.

Located less than a half hour from the strip, LV Motorways is a genuine race track, complete with grand stands and a challenging track. After a brief but intimidating car simulator session, I found myself suiting up and strapping into an honest to goodness real Ferrari F-450 GT race car.

Just the roar of the engine was enough to strike fear into my heart. Luckily, an experienced driver was right beside me in the passenger seat, shouting commands through my headset and telling me when to hit the gas. And hit the gas I did. Ever wonder what it feels like to be inside a launching rocket? I don't wonder anymore.

All the while, my driving instructor is yelling for me to gear up or gear down with the steering column paddle. Probably

Other Las Vegas adventures

- **Indoor skydiving.** Suit up and dive into a tube with a giant fan blasting you upwards. Simulates actual skydiving and free falling. The fan generates winds up to 193 kilometres per hour.
- **Freemont St. zipline.** Soar above the most historic street in Vegas. Flightlinez offers rides for only \$20 nightly after 6 p.m.

the single coolest moment was when I took my first corner at full throttle. Whereas most cars would probably roll multiple times at this point, this amazing Ferrari felt like it was glued to the track even on a sharp bend.

This experience is well worth the price of admission. And I don't miss that Pinto anymore.



Darren Parkman has a need for speed at the Las Vegas Motorways. CONTRIBUTED/DARREN PARKMAN



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Roasting chestnuts on an open fire

Do people really roast chestnuts?

Yes, says Linda Grimo of Grimo Nut Nursery in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. But the easiest way to do them is on the barbecue, she says. Nuts have been part of the holiday tradition for centuries, with both religious and pagan origins cited by various sources. Although cooks tend to incorporate them in dishes throughout the year, they are a staple of holiday entertaining.

There are options aside from roasting

Saut  ing peeled chestnuts in a frying pan is an alternative to barbecuing. If you boil them briefly first, the nuts will "pop right out" of the skin, says Grimo. She cooks them in butter for at least 10 minutes, adding sugar to caramelize them for a sweet treat or garlic or onions if she wants to add them to vegetable or meat dishes.



THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO

Storage

Store-bought nuts in the shell or in jars can be stored at room temperature, but freshly harvested nuts have a high moisture content and need to dry out. Grimo advises people who pick black walnuts, for example, to hang them in a burlap sack in the furnace room for three weeks, preferably with a small fan near them to circulate air through the bag. Chestnuts are the exception and should always be stored in the refrigerator.

The weigh in

Nuts are very good for us, says dietitian Doug Cook, and since they all have different nutrients in varying degrees, eating a variety is best. Ounce for ounce, nuts contain between 150 and 200 calories. The number of servings per person should depend on age, activity level and body weight. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ DOUG COOK, DIETITIAN AND DIRECTOR OF THE TORONTO CHAPTER OF HEALTHCASTLE.COM.**

Cocktails of the Week

Fig and Maple

Something about fig and maple syrup just goes together. And when you add a little liquor, you have a delicious and warming combination that is perfect for those nights when you're curled up in front of the fire.

- 2 fresh or dried fig
- 1 tbsp ginger marmalade
- 1 oz hot water
- 2 oz Bombay Sapphire
- 2 oz fresh lime juice
- 2 oz ginger beer
- 1 oz maple syrup

1. In a shaker, muddle fig with ginger marmalade and water. Add Bombay Sapphire, fresh lime juice, ginger beer and maple syrup. Add ice and double strain into glass.



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Susan Rann. PROVIDED

To the educated, I say keep your ego in check

Susan Rann
Graduate
Business Administration
Nova Scotia Community College
TalentEgg.ca

What's my rant/beef/whatever you want to call it about you, we, us, the post-secondary post-student career-looking individual? We think too damn highly of ourselves. Not enough words to get published? Well let me elaborate.

Remember the day that the college actually accepted your application? What happened to you in the less-than-a-year to three years since then that makes you believe you are fit for a CEO role? Seriously. We all feel it once in a while — just last week I applied to be the prime minister. I have yet to hear back.

At any rate, we get a little knowledge in us and we suddenly think we don't have to start at the bottom.

How about a little experiment? Let's apply for the gigs we know we are able to do and let the ones we want come to us when the time is right. Believe me — if the organization that finds you

is awesome enough, they will make room for someone who knows the value of service over the person with a bunch of letters after their name.

Based on your experience, what recommendation(s) do you have for employers, career centres or schools?

My recommendation to employers is to give every person who takes the time to apply to your organization a chance to speak to one person. That is all. A quick, five-minute chat with an employee of your company to find out if they are a good fit. Human nature will let each individual know within those five-minutes if a resumé should be handed in and an application process initiated.

What are you doing now?

I write and volunteer in my spare time.

Based on your experience, do you have any advice for your fellow students and recent grads?

I have plenty of experience and attitudes for many different situations and work experience to share with you.

In general, my advice is to keep your head high in whatever you are doing.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE.

Halfway in and having some doubts?

School switcharoo.

It's not uncommon for mixed feelings to make their way into the minds of learners

CHRISTINA
PELLEGRINI
TalentEgg.ca

So your college or university major isn't what you thought it'd be. Maybe the career opportunities you thought you'd have haven't panned out. Or perhaps you've discovered a new interest.

Fall classes may be over, but there's still time to meet with an academic advisor and change your winter schedule to pursue a new major or specialization.

According to the University of Calgary, the majority of university students switch their majors at least once. Reasons why vary from not being hired to discovering new interests to just plain uncertainty.

What should you do if you're interested in something else?

It's easy to follow your friends, study what your parents tell you to or pursue a career based on how much it pays. But you have to deal with your career choices, Toronto-based community manager Stephanie Fusco says.

Fusco studied politics at Queen's University and hoped to go to law school since she was in high school. But in a fourth-year political communications seminar, she realized that she loved strategy, speech writing and communications more. She graduated from Queen's and later pursued her passion and earned a post-graduate certi-



Be cautious of stacking your schedule with similar classes. Try to study a variety of subjects to get a wider perspective and discover your other interests earlier. ISTOCK

Drawn to different choices

"I knew I made the right choice when I found myself putting more effort into my Humber application than I was putting into worrying about whether I'd get into law school."

Stephanie Fusco
Toronto-based community manager

cate in public relations from Humber College.

"I knew I made the right choice when I found myself

putting more effort into my Humber application than I was putting into worrying about whether I'd get into law school," she says. "I'm sure I'm doing what I'm supposed to do and my career is on a path I'm very happy with."

Maybe there's an aspect of your major you love. It may take some reflection or experimentation to figure it out, but try to pursue a degree and a career in the aspect that interests you the most, Fusco adds.

What should you do if you're not sure?

If you're unsure about your interests or aspirations, choose

an undecided major. According to the University of California, students who enter college with an undeclared major change their focus fewer times than students who declare their major. So when you do make a decision, you'll make it count.

What should you do if you weren't recruited this fall?

Many large companies have already filled their entry level or leadership program positions by now. Don't panic if you haven't been hired. Take rejection as an opportunity to assess your interests, goals and options.

When an accounting firm didn't recruit Nick Guadagnolo last year, the then aspiring auditor and fourth-year accounting student at the Schulich School of Business enrolled in organizational behaviour and marketing classes in his final semester instead.

"An accounting specialization without a CA designation was not what I wanted," Guadagnolo says. "I excelled at, and quite frankly derived so much more pleasure from, the not-so-numerical aspects of the BBA degree."

He studied things like sports marketing, crisis management and operating a family business. He wrote the LSAT in June, applied to law school this fall, travelled frequently and continues to work part-time in HR. For Guadagnolo, there is credence to a plan of action that doesn't involve immediately jumping into the fray. It sounds scary now, but maybe the same applies to you too.

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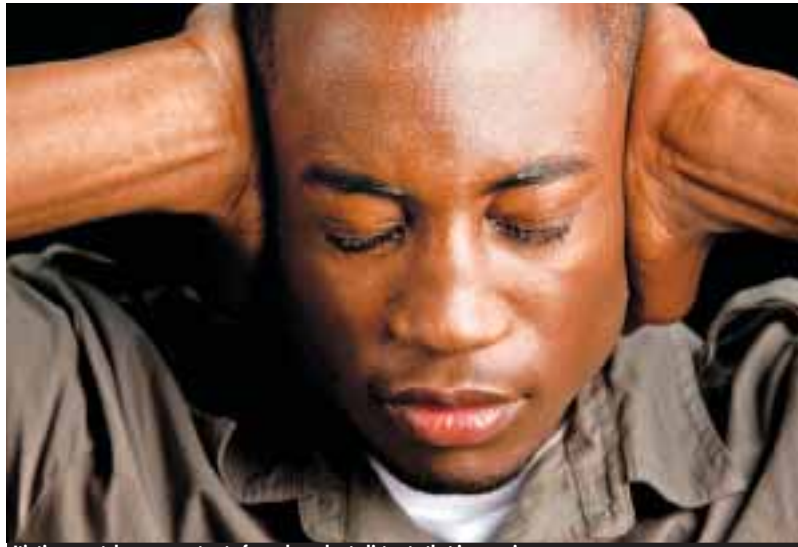
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Moving to a new city for a job means leaving your old life behind and often throws you right into work, making it hard to achieve any semblance of a work-life balance.

When being the new kid in the office also coincides with being the new kid on the block, it is especially important that you don't let your work life take over your entire life. It's not good for your job and it's not good for you.

This year I experienced my first summer in Toronto and also my first summer working in the city. After weeks of devoting myself to my job and nothing but my job, I realized that gaining some balance not only made me more productive but it generally made me happier.

Julie Chandler, an executive with Robert Half International, says that work-life balance is



It's time you take a moment out of your busy day to listen to that inner voice. ISTOCK

one of the most important facets to performing well at work. "When I have that work-life balance, I go in the next day with a smile on my face because I'm happy to be back," she says.

According to a recent study by Regus PLC, more Canadian office workers feel that their work-life balance has im-

proved. However, in my experience, new hires often let work take over as they try to prove themselves in their new office.

Attempting to balance a fast-paced Toronto job with life in the big city taught me a few things about dividing my time between work and play. Through trial and error, here are the lessons I learned:

Make plans

After a long day at work it can be tempting to come home and slump down on the couch for the rest of the evening. While a little R&R is never a bad thing, it's important to break out of your work-to-home routine.

- Make plans with friends, go out after work and take in tourist attractions on the weekends. Working in the office followed by chores and passing out at home won't help make your job any more attractive. Put life back into your work-life balance and experience your city.

refreshed and ready to get back to my job. Taking coffee breaks and time for lunch also helps the day go by faster so rather than watching the clock tick by you actually have the energy and the drive to make the most of your time in the office.

Leave work at the office

In the age of social media and smart phones, work is no longer contained to the office. Assignments can roll in at any time, on any day with the click of a button.

However, it is important to make a distinction between work time and home time. Do you really need to be reading budget reports on Saturday morning or can it wait until Monday?

Job permitting, try to avoid checking your work emails during the weekends or evenings. If that isn't possible, then at the very least give yourself some tech-free hours over dinner or at the gym; anything that allows you to focus on something other than your on-going projects.

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every day without rest stops. After a few weeks of working on the permanent butt-in-print in my office chair, a co-worker approached me about having the same no-break problem. We decided to start eating lunch together, forcing each of us to step away from work for at least half an hour of banter over burgers.

The difference was astounding.

I returned to work feeling

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Canadian juniors not sleeping on jet-lag issues

Travel concerns. Trip to Ufa, Russia, just one more obstacle on road to world championship

The puck drop for Canada's first three games at the world junior hockey championship in Russia is 4:30 a.m. ET.

Host city Ufa is 10 to 14 hours ahead of the Canadian players' body clocks, depending on what part of the country they're from. A Canadian junior team hasn't travelled this far, or crossed this many time zones since the 2001 tournament in Moscow. Ufa is another 1,160 kilometres and two time zones to the southeast.

Jet lag and travel fatigue will be major challenges, barriers as significant on the road to gold as the Russians, Swedes and Americans.

Hockey Canada enlisted the expertise of Calgary sleep specialist Dr. Charles Samuels to



Canadian players, from left, Nathan MacKinnon, Jonathan Drouin and Jonathan Huberdeau look on during team photos last Friday in Calgary. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

draw up a plan to combat jet lag and sleep deprivation.

"I've met with sleep doctors, sports psychologists, neuro-psychologists," Canadian head coach Steve Spott said. "I've met with just about every doctor possible."

The accepted rule is it takes a day for every hour of time difference to adapt. Samuels aims to accelerate the adjustment.

Travel fatigue gets less atten-

tion than jet lag, he says, but for athletes who travel to far-flung places a lot, it can be damaging to performance. The cumulative effects of extensive travel fatigue the body and mind. Even though the Canadian team is only travelling to Ufa once, the distance and time on planes can catch up with them.

Samuels drew up Canada's

'No screwing around'

The Canadian team is currently in training in Finland, a four-hour time difference from Ufa, Russia. The players were on a strict schedule from the moment the wheels went up on their flight from Calgary on Saturday.

- One of the worst things a team can do, says Samuels, is get on the plane exhausted, but it was inevitable some players would be after selection camp.

- "We really talked about on the flight, eye shades, ear plugs, noise-cancellation headphones, all the pillows and comfort you need and the plane is for rest. No screwing around," Samuels said.

Quoted

"It's basically a survival situation if you look at the frequency of games, the time of the games and then the fact there's virtually no time to recover before the finals." Calgary sleep specialist Dr. Charles Samuels

Refusing to buckle on value of knuckle



New Blue Jays starter R.A. Dickey began toying with the knuckleball in 2005 while with the Texas Rangers and initially struggled with it. But Dickey continued working on the pitch and has enjoyed solid success with it since joining the New York Mets in 2010. MARC SEROTA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

It's quirky, unpredictable and has been described in baseball circles as an oddity and "pitch of last resort."

But the Toronto Blue Jays are banking on R.A. Dickey's dancing knuckleball.

The Jays acquired the National League Cy Young Award winner in a seven-player deal with the Mets on Monday.

Dickey, 38, posted a 20-6 record and 2.73 earned-run average with New York in 2012, but his go-to pitch wasn't a blazing fastball, nasty slider or deep-bending curve. Often he got batters out with the knuckleball, a slow, unassuming pitch that flutters like a butterfly.

By the numbers

4

R.A. Dickey is the fourth pitcher to win the Cy Young only to be traded before the next season, joining David Cone, Pedro Martinez and Roger Clemens.

"This may be a pitch of last resort, which I think is accurate, but think about over history how many last resorts have ended up being successful," Dickey said during a conference call Tuesday. "A lot."

General manager Alex Anthopoulos signed Dickey to a two-year, \$25-million US con-

tract extension with a \$12-million club option for 2016. Dickey is scheduled to earn \$5.25 million in 2013.

"I think Alex should be commended on being able to see past those stereotypical analyses a lot of guys give the pitch as a gimmick or something that isn't legitimate," Dickey said. "I think we can all admit the past year and the past three years in general have been legitimate."

The good news for Toronto is Dickey started six games against the American League over his three seasons in New York, posting a 4-0 record and 1.71 ERA. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Judge lowers bond in Cowboy Brent's manslaughter case

A judge ordered Dallas Cowboys nose tackle Josh Brent to wear an electronic monitor pending his trial on an intoxication manslaughter charge in the one-car crash that killed a teammate.

State District Judge Fred Tinsley also lowered Brent's bond from \$500,000 US to \$100,000 on Tuesday. He ordered Brent not to drink alcohol or drive without a valid driver's licence. Prosecutors say Brent was driving with a suspended licence on the night of the Dec. 8 crash that killed friend and Cowboys practice squad member Jerry Brown. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Dallas Cowboys tackle Josh Brent leaves court in Dallas on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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4 SPORTS

Civic hits refresh button



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Features

The new Honda Civic's feature list is long, so here's some highlights: Bluetooth for audio and device hook-up, heated front seats, read out and respond for text messages and navigation upgraded with voice recognition, plus a "three-view" rear camera. In fact, a rear-view camera is now standard on EX models.



New stylish features

2013 Honda Civic fast facts

- **Sales.** Canada's top selling car line
- **Engine.** 140 hp, 1.8 litre four-cylinder. Si Coupes and Sedans upgraded to 201 hp.
- **Location.** Most models built in Alliston, Ont.
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$15,400

Style changes

The new model flaunts a degree of exterior style and interior finesse not quite evident on the 2012 Civic. In a mid-cycle refresh like this one, about all you're able to change on the outside are front and rear fascia, hood and trunk panels and the wheels. Honda has done that and all to great effect.

Design

The look is wider and lower — slightly more sporty and premium. It now sports exterior bits you've been seeing on higher-end models, like complex headlights, black mesh grille with chrome accents, integrated fog lights (on higher trim lines) and larger, more horizontal taillights that flow into the sides of the car.

Review. New model has learned from mistakes of 2012 Civic

MIKE GOETZ

Drive@metronews.ca

This newly minted 2013 Honda Civic sedan is one unusual

automobile. Not weird like it runs on goat cheese, or some other dairy product.

Unusual in that the refresh bestowed upon it for 2013 comes only one model year after it was completely reborn. About 18 months ago, that all-new and ninth-generation 2012 Honda Civic came out to mixed reviews — not so bad that it had any problem at all

retaining its mantle as Canada's top-selling passenger car.

But Honda must have been clearly spooked about its initial reception and the subsequent and serious competitive moves made by its competitors in this all-important compact car segment — Canada's largest. Toyota Corolla and Mazda3 have always battled Civic hard, but now there's a whole new



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and energetic crowd banging on the door (Chevrolet Cruze, Ford Focus, Hyundai Elantra, Dodge Dart, etc.)

"The days when the Civic was just a car for the first time buyer are gone," says Dave Gardner, vice-president of sales and marketing for Honda Canada. "We're now appealing to a significant number of customers who are downsizing from intermediate or larger vehicles."

On top of everything else it offers, it's quieter on the road

thanks to new acoustic measures and the new suspension bits, which also reduce NVH. You could ask, why didn't the 2012 Civic come out the gate this way? Another question you could ask is, why don't other automakers have the cojones to react as fast and effectively to correct a vehicle that is not as good as it could be? Good on Honda to make this move, and good on Civic. Your place on top of the Canadian sales charts will surely continue.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You can be as adventurous as you please now, knowing that nothing bad will come of it. Make use of the Sun's final few days in sympathetic Sagittarius to have fun. Forget about yesterday, it's today that matters.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Money may be a little tight at the moment but that is no reason to deny yourself the good things in life. On the contrary, you will feel better about yourself if you splash out a bit — but not too much.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Thought may be your natural medium but with love planet Venus moving through the relationship area of your chart you want to express yourself not only mentally but romantically too. Give the object of your affection your full attention.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

If you need help, you must ask for it. No one will think any the less of you if you request assistance. On the contrary, they will admire your maturity. Neither success nor self-worth have anything to do with separation.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

The more you have been working on serious things, the more you owe it to yourself to have some fun. Social activities, as well as an affair of the heart, will bring you a great deal of pleasure over the next 24 hours.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Today's rather unusual events will convince you that important objectives can only be reached if you are prepared to meet other people halfway. That applies not only to your allies but to your rivals too.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Most of the time your head rules your heart, but today the opposite will be true. You will allow your feelings to dictate what you say and do. Nothing bad will come of it. In fact, you will thoroughly enjoy yourself.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Calm down and stop taking what other people say so seriously. Yes, of course, some individuals can be a complete pain but if you let them upset you it means they have won. It's life — learn to laugh at it.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Take your pleasures where you find them and don't give a thought to what is going on around you. Is that irresponsible? Some people may think so but you have done your bit for world peace — now you want a piece of the action.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Most of the time you think and behave rationally but the planets warn that your feelings could get the better of you today. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that so long as they are positive and loving feelings.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Stick to what you do best and don't let others involve you in things you have next to no interest in. There is only so much that any one person can do and you'll do your bit better if it inspires you.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You will find yourself up against someone who speaks and acts a bit too aggressively today but you must not react in kind. Smile, talk softly and reasonably and let them see you are beyond their reach. You win. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword

Across

- Package request (abbr.)
- Breakfast choice
- Headliner
- Extremely dry
- Seminary subj.
- Skin opening
- Renounce
- "Far out!"
- Trucker's radio, for short
- Occasions
- Rate
- Little Rock st.
- Victory sign
- Exclamation of surprise
- At no time
- Writer Levin
- Whacks, as a housefly
- Silkworm
- Perry Mason's secretary
- Musical note
- Toss out
- Knight of Grey's Anatomy
- Busy — — (3 words)
- Archie Bunker's offspring
- the World Turns
- Cut back
- Careless
- General vicinity
- Battery sz.
- Church section
- Car mishap
- Sillet
- Pouch

Down

- Canadian Auto Association
- Sphere
- "I Know What You — Last Summer"
- Long, long time
- Smart
- Jane Lynch series
- She played Emily Hartley on The Bob Newhart Show (init.)



BY BETTY MARTIN

8. Severed

- I smell — (2 words)
- Lipstick colours
- Recipe direction
- Survivor network
- Moving vehicles
- Sooner than, poetically
- Eager
- Dried
- Circus Barker

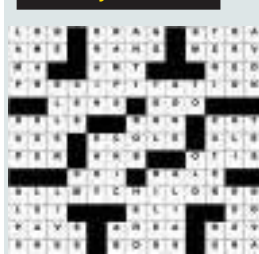
25. Farm mother

- Sandwich filler
- Part of speech
- A great lake
- Take the subway
- Indian dress
- Maria (coffee liqueur)
- Common paper sz.
- Tree fluid
- Business abbr.

46. Pleased

- Knowledge
- Mike with Mike Bullard
- Memo abbr.
- Half a Teletubbie
- McShane or Ziering
- The Hour — 22 Minutes
- Eggs
- Winter mo.
- One Day — a Time

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	1	8	3	6	2	9	5	4
9	4	2	7	5	8	6	1	3
6	3	5	4	1	9	8	7	2
1	8	9	2	7	4	3	6	5
3	7	4	5	8	6	1	2	9
2	5	6	9	3	1	4	8	7
5	6	7	8	4	3	2	9	1
4	2	1	6	9	5	7	3	8
8	9	3	1	2	7	5	4	6



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